

VLR-6/20/89 NRHP-11/13/89

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Rife House
other names/site number 60-443

2. Location

South side of VA Route 633 at
street & number U.S. 11/460 N/A not for publication
city, town Shawsville vicinity
state Virginia code VA county Montgomery code 121 zip code 24162

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
		Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> structures
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> objects
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: Prehistoric and
Historic Resources of Montgomery County

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official _____ Date _____
Virginia Department of Historic Resources
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official _____ Date _____
State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: single dwelling
Domestic: secondary structure

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Commerce/Trade: business

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

Late Victorian: Queen Anne

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick
walls Wood: weatherboard

roof Stone: slate
other _____

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Rife House is located on a large lot in the rural landscape along U.S. 460/11 northeast of Shawsville. The weatherboarded two-story frame house incorporates a flat-topped hipped roof with cast iron ornamental cresting. The north and south sides and the west front incorporate two-story undercut bays beneath projecting gables. The cornice is equipped with modillion blocks, and the gables incorporate windows with diagonal muntins. The west gable has a Palladian window with keystone. The one-over-one double-hung sash windows are equipped with added modern blinds. The first-floor windows have leaded transoms. There is an irregular chimney arrangement. A one-story porch wraps around the north, south, and west walls supported by Doric columns on pedestals and equipped with a turned balustrade. The porch is curved where it wraps around the house. An undercut two-story porch with sawn brackets and turned balusters is located at the rear (east). The basement is lit by windows in a stuccoed masonry foundation. Cornerboards on the weatherboarded walls feature small capitals. A contributing frame outbuilding of early twentieth-century date is located to the east of the house adjacent to a noncontributing modern garage. The outbuilding, probably a meathouse, has a slate roof.

The interior features a series of three rooms along the north side, and a stair hall behind the entry door on the south with two rooms behind. The irregular and complex floor plan is atypical of regional traditional floor plans and marks the house as an example of popular pattern-book-influenced Queen Anne-style architecture. The interior features simple molded trim, Queen Anne mantels, and an open stringer stair in the entry hall.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

ca. 1905

Significant Dates

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Rife House is eligible under criterion C as an unusually large and stylish house incorporating decorative and planning elements adapted from published pattern books. There are very few Queen Anne houses in Montgomery County. The Rife House is the only nominated example in rural Montgomery. The other Queen Anne houses included in this submission are in urban areas and few in number. The Lee House in the Cambria Historic District (154-12) and The Oaks (154-1-5) in the East Main Street Historic District, are good examples. One of the best Queen Anne houses, the Black House in Blacksburg (now Hoy-McCoy Funeral Home), has been severely altered and is not eligible.

The richness of decorative treatment and the choice of unusual materials such as iron cresting and slate roofing mark the house as the home of a wealthy family. The interior, though somewhat altered by the installation of lowered ceilings, retains most of its features, and the alterations are reversible. The frame outbuilding along with the house demonstrate the form and use of domestic space in the period.

K. M. Rife, the first owner of the house, came to the Shawsville vicinity from the coalfields of western Virginia and exhibited his wealth and taste by erecting this home (Hawes). Deed research indicates that K. M. Rife purchased 279 acres in 1904, formerly known as the Ryan Farm, from J. W. Walters and his wife Lola for \$6,000.00 (Deed Book 51, p. 348). The nearby home of Captain "Black" Barger, Walnut Grove (60-451, part of this submission), was built on a grander scale by another wealthy man who made his wealth in the coal fields near Bluefield, West Virginia.

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

Hawes, Charlotte. Interview, November 1985.

Montgomery County Deed Book 51, p. 348.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository:

Virginia Department of Historic Resources
221 Governor Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property less than two acres.

UTM References

A

1	7
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5	6	7	7	4	0
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4	1	1	4	6	1	0
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Zone Easting Northing

C

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B

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Zone Easting Northing

D

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See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

Beginning at point A, on the east side of U.S. Route 460/11 275 feet south of the intersection of U.S. Rt 460/11 and VA Route 633, proceed north 275 feet along the east side of U. S. Route 460/11 to point B, thence east 200 feet along the south side of VA Route 633 to point C, thence 275 feet along apparent lot line to point D, thence 200 feet west along the edge of yard to the point of origin.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

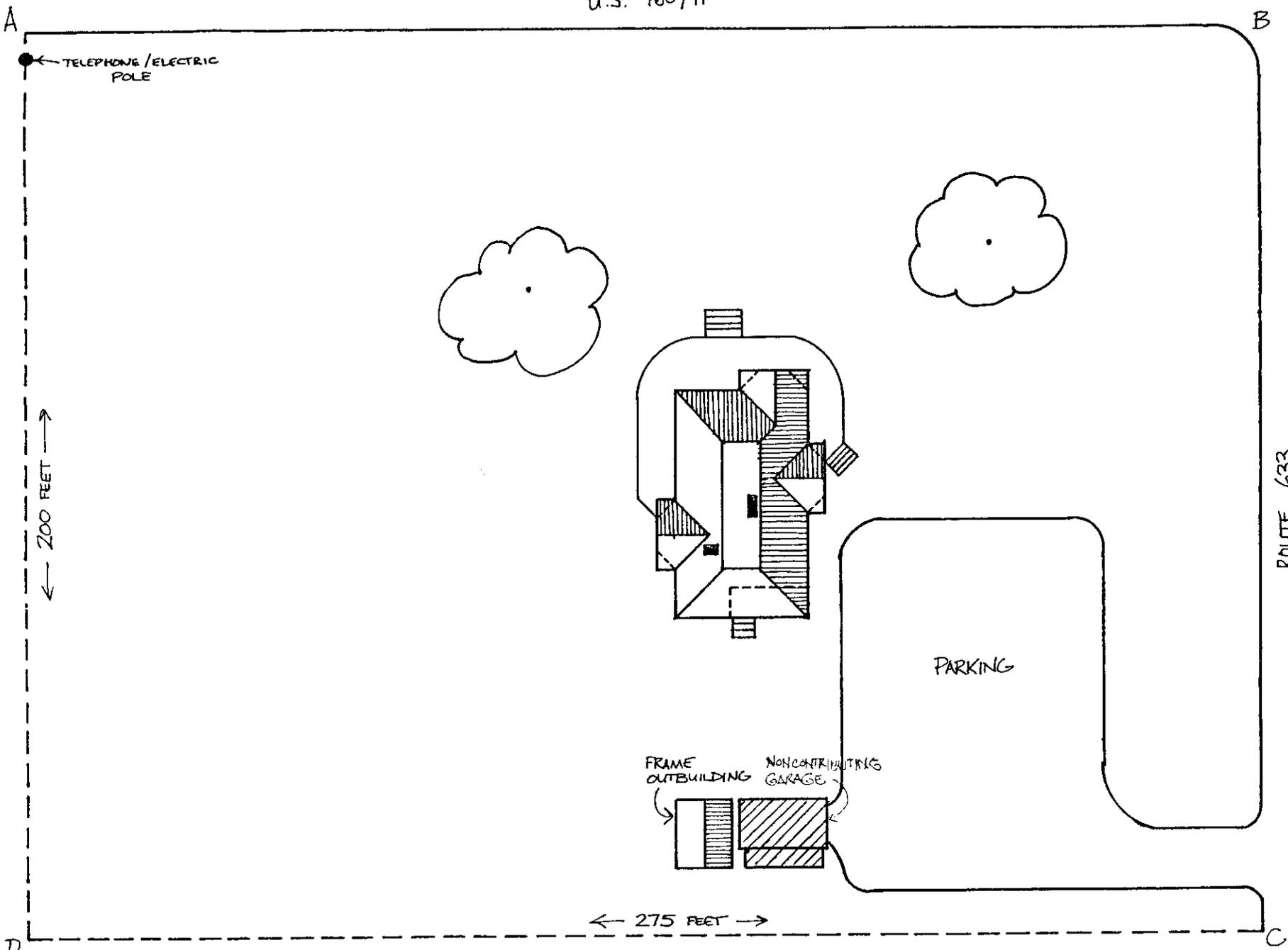
The boundaries were chosen to include the house, outbuildings, and domestic-related space defined by roads and fields.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

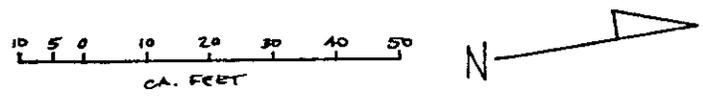
name/title Gibson Worsham
organization Gibson Worsham, Architect date June 1988
street & number Route 2, Yellow Sulphur Springs telephone (703) 552-4730
city or town Christiansburg state Virginia zip code 24073

U.S. 460/11



ROUTE 633

60-443 RIFE HOUSE
 G. WORSHAM
 K. MARTIN 10/87

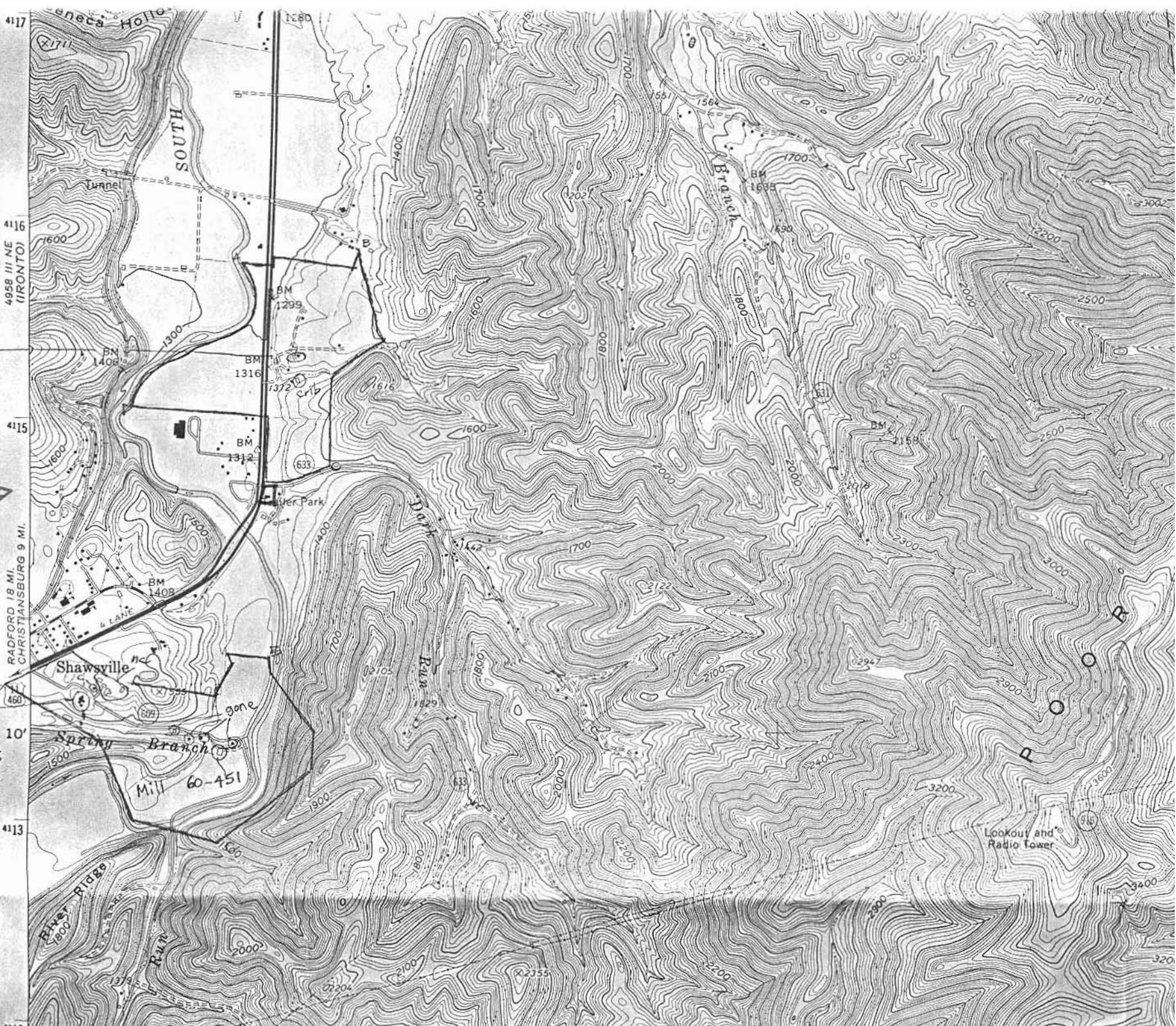


4117
4958 III NE (FRONTO)
4116
4115
4114
4113
4112

MADISON FARM
17 4115780 567600
17 4115840 568210
17 4114765 568600
17 4115600 567680

RIFE HOUSE →
17 567710 4114600

WALNUT GROVE FARM
17 556770 4113830
17 557720 4113775
17 557520 4112900
17 566650 4113415



4958 III NE (FRONTO)
RADFORD 18 MI. CHRISTIANBURG 9 MI.
10'